

DUQ-002(DEP5290)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



re the application of: Kalfas, *et al.*

Application number: 10/815,883

Filed: March 31, 2004

For: *Spinal Rod Connector*

Attorney Docket No.: DUQ-002 (DEP5290)

Art Unit: 3733

Examiner: Annette R. Reimers

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This Response is filed responsive to the Final Office Action mailed May 4, 2006, (Paper No. 20060501). In view of the comments set forth below, Applicant submits that the pending claims are patentable and in condition for allowance.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.

ENTRY RECOMMENDED  
ENTRY APPROVED  
8/16/06